

SAMPLE ESSAY

Advantages of Being the Oldest and Only Girl in the Family

I come from a typical middle-income family that consists of my parents, my two younger brothers and I. I am the oldest child and also the only girl in my family and when I was younger, I really hated being the oldest and only girl. **However, as I grew older, I realized that being the “Big Sister” wasn’t so bad after all.**

In fact, being the oldest and only girl has many advantages. One benefit is I get special treatment from my family members. My parents and brothers treat me like a princess. **For example**, my brothers all have to follow my orders. If they do not, my parents will punish them. **In addition**, I get my own room with my own television set and I do not have to share my clothes with anyone. **Furthermore**, I do not have to take out the garbage and wash the car – these are jobs for my brothers. **Another benefit is that I have developed many qualities that have made me a mature person.** Through experience, I have learnt to be responsible and dependable. **For instance**, when my parents go out on weekends, they leave my brothers in my care because they believe I can watch over the meals and safety of my brothers. **Besides** my parents, my brothers also depend on me to help them with their schoolwork. Sometimes, I **also** listen to their problems in dealing with growing up.

To conclude, being who I am is not all that bad. Although at first I hated being the only girl and also the oldest in the family, I have learnt to see the positive side of being who I am as I grew older.

Analysing the essay:

1. Write the thesis statement here:

2. Write the topic sentence here:

3. What linkers have been used in the essay to show:

- a. addition of ideas - _____
- b. example - _____
- c. summary / conclusion - _____

4. What are the tenses used in the essay? Why are those tenses used?

Writing exercise:

Write a three-paragraph essay of about 150 – 200 words for the question below.

What are the advantages of having siblings?